

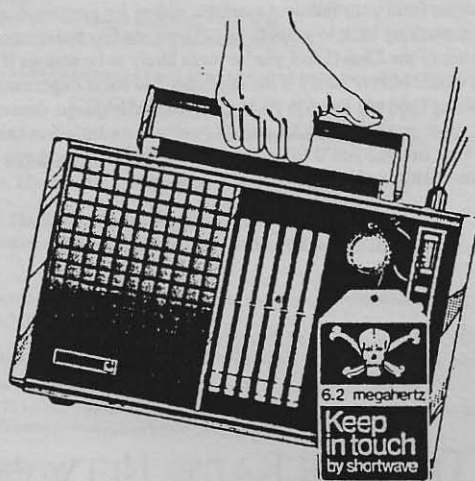
# The monthly A\*C\*E

since 1982

March 2001

---

FIGHT FOR FREE RADIO.



Weekends, tune in the U.S.  
pirate station that keeps 48  
meters "radio-active"!

**The VOICE of SYNCOM**

## from the desk of the interim Managing Editor

John T. Arthur  
Ye Olde jta: [jta@realns.com](mailto:jta@realns.com)  
or: (716) 365-8870 (not collect)

Begorah – is it already time for St Patrick's Day and all that green beer? Seems like just yesterday we were all worried about the Y2k crisis, doesn't it? Shortly after you receive this issue, most of the DXing world will meet in Kulpville. I know everybody is flogging you about it, but just once in your life you really have to make it to the Winter SWL Fest – and when you do get there you'll wonder why it took you so long to do so! Hope to see you there. Just hope they don't have green beer!

The ACE is still looking for a more permanent solution to the vacancy in the President/Publisher position. The job security and benefits are lousy (no 401k or pension), but the work really isn't difficult and the good thoughts from your fellow Associates makes for a warm, fuzzy feeling inside; a feeling of giving something back to a fun hobby. There are few requirements, really: It helps to be a paid-up member of the Club (I feel you're more likely to be serious if you've ponied up some \$\$) and it would be real handy if the applicant had some experience with desktop publishing (something I did not have), a good grasp of the language, decent typing and spelling skills, and maybe some managerial skills, too. If you've got a little free time, you think you've gotten a lot out of the Club and you'd like to give something back, and you live close to a really good copy shop, contact Hdq and let's tawk!

# FRN

 THE FREE RADIO NETWORK

“Pirate Radio Invades the World Wide Web!”



- ✓Audio Clips
- ✓Photos
- ✓QSLs
- ✓The ACE
- ✓Chat
- ✓News
- ✓The Grapevine
- ✓Over 1000 Links

## DIALOGS March 2001

Lee Reynolds, 53 Unity Springs Road, Lempster, NH 03605-3130  
Email: [lreynolds@cyberportal.net](mailto:lreynolds@cyberportal.net)  
ICQ# Available on request

## LATE LOGS

### Alfa Lima International (Hoogeveen)

- 01/21/01, 1756-1814\*, 21890A – OM announcer, commented he was being heard in NA. (JC-ON)

### Crunch Radio (Unknown)

- 01/13/01, 0313, 6950A – no further details. (ZR-CA 333)

### East Coast Beer Drinker (Blue Ridge Summit)

- 01/14/01, ????, 6952U – no further details. (ZR-CA 323)

### KMUD (Lone Pine)

- 01/13/01, 2241, 6932A – no further details. (ZR-CA 333)

### Sycko Radio (None)

- 01/13/01, 0108-0125, 6950U – no further details. (DC-IN)
- 01/15/01, 0156, 6952U – no further details. (ZR-CA 333)

### WMFQ (Providence)

- 01/13/01, 0016, 6950A – no further details. (ZR-CA 332)
- 01/21/01, 0156-0225, 6945A – no further details. (ZR-CA 222)

## FROM ACROSS THE POND

### Radio Sunflower (Brussels)

- 01/28/01, 1730-1757+, 21540A – mx – Rock oldies. Fair to good signal. (JS-NE)

### Radio East Coast Holland (Hoogeveen)

- 02/11/01, 0723-0742+, 6300A – Dutch and English i.d.s, OM announcer, YL pop vocal at tune in. Good signal levels. (CL-MA)

## NORTH AMERICAN LOGGINGS

### Blind Faith Radio ([blindfaithradio@yahoo.com](mailto:blindfaithradio@yahoo.com))

- 01/28/01, 1718-1723-1728\*, 6955U – one rock song, OM announced he was testing a transmitter. Off and on again at 1723 with more powerful transmitter (2 S-units better!) (GZ-OH 353)

### Crunch Radio (Unknown)

- 01/26/01, 0310-0400+, 6950A – Advertisements for Studebaker, TRIG, off with “America the Beautiful”. (Pse QSL FM-NH 333)
- 01/27/01, 0303-0403, 6950A – mx – oldies from the 30's to the 70's including Roger Whitaker and Bobby Goldsboro. (Pse QSL LR-NH 333)
- 01/28/01, 0306-0400+, 6950A – Oldies/nostalgia mx, old-time advertisements, off with “America the Beautiful”. (CL-MA)(LR-NH 454)
- 01/28/01, 0508, 6950A – Big band instrumental mx. Off with “America the Beautiful” (CL-MA)
- 01/29/01, 0328-0405+, 6950A – mx – orchestral, high power on i.d. spots, low on mx. (ZR-CA 233)
- 01/29/01, 0430-0445, 6950A – mx – Pink Floyd. (JS-NE)
- 02/05/01, 0219-0240+, 6950A – again, alternating power. (ZR-CA 233)
- 02/05/01, 0405-0410, 6950A – mx – “When you wish upon a Star”, “America the Beautiful” (JS-NE)
- 02/13/01, 0341-0358\*, 6950A – mx – Americana. (JS-NE).

### Fight For Free Radio (FRN)

- 01/28/01, \*0110-0138, 6950U – Two guys talking. References to “QSL Whores”, “The guy in 4F”, “Eddie Murphy”. Shoelace contest. (LR-NH 333)

### Jean Chretien Worldwide (Unknown)

- 01/28/01, 0140-0157, 6950U – no further details. (ZR-CA 222)

### Jolly Roger Radio International ([jr\\_radio@hotmail.com](mailto:jr_radio@hotmail.com))

- 02/03/01, 2248-2310, 6950A – mx – C&W, contemporary, JRRRI announcements. (LR-NH 232)

### KIPM (Elkhorn)

- 02/03/01, 0013-0104\*, 6950U – “The Hollow Earth Bonus Show” (AF 444)(GZ-OH 252)(SG-IL 444)(JS-NE)

- 02/03/01, 0143-0208\*, 6944U -- Mister Maxwell and one of his sketches. (CL-MA)(DC-IN)
- 02/03/01, 0112-0208, 6944U -- "The IIAARP Show". (JS-NE)(ZR-CA 333)
- 02/03/01, 0231-0327, 6945U -- "The IIAARP Show". (JS-NE)(ZR-CA 333)
- 02/03/01, 0352, 6955U -- repeat of earlier show. (ZR-CA 333)
- 02/03/01, 2337-2358, 6941U -- no further detail (DC-IN)
- 02/03/01, 0005-0058, 6949U -- antichrist/antivirgin (DC-IN)
- 02/04/01, 0007-0103, 6946U -- "The Adversary" (JS-NE)
- 02/04/01, 0104-0202, 6946U -- "Entropy". (JS-NE)
- 02/04/01, 0207-0449\*, 6950U -- "Hollow Earth", "Warhounds", "The Adversary". (GM-CT 333) (GZ-OH 343)(JS-NE)
- 02/04/01, 1304-1420, 6940U -- "Heart of Darkness" (repeated). (JS-NE)

#### KMUD (Lone Pine)

- 01/25/01, 0106-0230+, 6937A -- no further details. (ZR-CA 222)
- 01/27/01, 0112-0250+, 6937A -- Live program. (ZR-CA 222)
- 01/31/01, 0108-0212, 6935A -- new mx tape! (ZR-CA 223)
- 02/03/01, 0115-0210, 6935A -- mx -- Neil Young. (ZR-CA 232)

#### Pirate Radio Central (Unknown)

- 02/04/01, 0534-0550+, 6955U -- mx -- punk-ish, operator "here with my honey", testing new microphone. Fake calls to movie theater. (Pse QSL LR-NH 544) (CL-MA)

#### Radio Neptune Universal Service (Blue Ridge Summit)

- 02/11/01, 0321-0407, 6950U -- mx -- U2, Blues Brothers, Rolling Stones. Announced as show #7, CBC rebroadcast. Off frequency initially with continued drift and distorted audio. Discussion of BRS drop. (RC-MA 352) (LR-NH 453)(GZ-OH 242)(JS-NE)

#### Radio Three (A.C.E.)

- 02/12/01, 2335-0007, 6950L -- mx -- rock. (DC-IN 433)
- 02/14/01, 0034-0110, 6950L -- mx -- good mix, no garbage. (Pse QSL DC-IN)
- 02/15/01, 0106-0110, 6950L -- mx -- unknown rap. Buck and Fearless Fred i.d., Sal Ammoniac Radio Three i.d. (Pse QSL LR-NH 455)

#### Radio Toronto (Merlin)

- 01/24/01, 7777-0040, 6950U -- no further details. (DC-IN)
- 01/27/01, 0010-0026\*, 6950U -- Subway driver interview, punk and rock mx. (AF 343)(Pse QSL FM-NH 222 -- reported 6954U)(GZ-OH 353)(ZR-CA 222)

#### Scream of the Mosquito (FRN)

- 02/07/01, 0113-0126, 6955U -- mx -- "Chicago"-like, gave FRN web site for reports. OM i.d. at signoff. (AF -- 434)(CL-MA)(Pse QSL DC-IN 322)

#### Sycko Radio (None)

- 01/27/01, 1705-1733\*, 6950U -- rock mx, diverse chatter, Pirate station countdown. (GZ-OH 343)
- 01/27/01, 2102-2118\*, 6950U -- as earlier report. (GZ-OH 343)
- 01/29/01, 0219-0304, 6950U -- Television takeovers, "Sycko Cola" and Metallica. 60's-style jingles, some technical problems. QSO with Radio Bob. (AF 232)(LR-NH 433)(Pse QSL JS-NE)(ZR-CA 334)
- 02/11/01, 02171, 6950U -- "Sycko babblings", JTA overlooking his radio. (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 02/11/01, 0249-0300, 6950U -- mx -- Techno and unknown, mention of Radio Bob, rever'b'd i.d. at 0250. (LR-NH 343)
- 02/12/01, 0149-0235, 6950U -- mx -- old time, old time programming. (AF 131)(Pse QSL JS-NE)(ZR-CA 332)

#### Take It Easy Radio (Belfast)

- 01/27/01, 0341-0409\*, 6950U -- mx -- light rock/Eagles. Mention of "Saturday night" so seemingly a live broadcast. (GZ-OH 343)
- 01/28/01, 0331-0418, 6950U -- Concert lineups, Wx forecasts, mx by the Eagles. (AF 555)(GM-CT 333 -- reported 6950A)(LR-NH 454)
- 01/28/01, \*0535-0606, 6950U -- Forties-style detective drama. TIER announcement, drop and off. (LR-NH 555)(JS-NE)
- 02/04/01, 0502-0534, 6955U -- Blues and comedy, off with signature tune. (GM-CT 333)(LR-NH 555)
- 02/06/01, 0147-0220+, 6948U -- All Jackson Browne show. Off with traditional signature tune. (AF-444)(CL-MA)(JS-NE)(ZR-CA 333)
- 02/06/01, 0309-0346, 6950U -- no further details. (ZR-CA 333)
- 02/17/01, 0023-0142, 6949U -- mx -- "Green Beret" album, shaky CW i.d. at 0039, changing frequencies, finally on 6948 when signing off. Desperado wishes to make it clear he IS NOT the "Green Beret" jammer back in December. (AF 433)(JS-NE)

#### Tuna Radio (Unknown)

- 02/03/01, 0106-0110+, 6950U -- testing audio, QSO with "Big Bob" in SoCal. "You can tune a radio, but you can't tuna fish!" (Pse QSL JS-NE)

#### Voice of Captain Ron Shortwave (captainronswr@yahoo.com)

- 01/28/01, \*2358-0104\*, 6950U -- The Captain and Potpourri Man. Monkeys, microphones and jellyfish. Overmodulated. (AF 432)(CL-MA)
- 01/29/01, 0025-0103, 6950U -- special Super Bowl broadcast. (JS-NE)(ZR-CA 333)
- 02/18/01, 0116-0155, 6945U -- more jellyfish monkeys, rap mx, frequency changes winding up on 6951U, promise of 20% more Major Prick for next broadcast. (AF 233)
- 02/19/01, 0105-0207 (intermittent), 6950U -- radio problems, soliciting feedback on audio via FRN. Back on 6945U at 0157. (AF 333)(LR-NH 454)

#### WHYP (whyp1530@hotmail.com)

- 02/03/01, 0015-0200+, 6950U -- Call to JTA for his recommendations about starting a Pirate Station. With Captain Ron and Captain Ganja assisting. Smoking a few "Fansomes". Jammed. (CL-MA)(GZ-OH 252)(SG-IL 222)(JS-NE)(ZR-CA 233)
- 02/03/01, 1325-1420\*, 6950U -- Similar to 0113 show but possibly a different part of the series. (GZ-OH 242)(JS-NE Reports 6950A and replay of earlier transmission)
- 02/11/01, 0926-0955\*, 6955U -- "Pirate Radio Station" replay. Good signal. (JS-NE)
- 02/18/01, 0202-0255\*, 6950L -- mx -- Beatles. Weather report. Babershop quartet. (AF 454)(JS-NE)
- 02/20/01, 0106-0124, 6950L -- James Brownyard's salute to Al Fansome. Mx Beatles, Costello. (RC-MA 453)

#### WMFQ (Providence)

- 01/28/01, 0420-0433+, 6950U -- mx -- Beatles, Manilow. Chanted i.d. (JS-NE)

### TENTATIVE/UNIDENTIFIED

#### UNID

- 01/23/01, 0205-0208, 6950U -- mx -- on, played two 50s/60s tunes and off. (LR-NH 523)
- 01/27/01, 0341-0350+, 6950A -- mx -- 30's/40's/50's style. (GM-CT 231)
- 02/04/01, 0104-0110, 6952U -- mx -- "Spirit in the Sky", "Escape". Drifty, fading. (AF 322)
- 02/05/01, \*1500-1516, 6955U -- mx -- "American Man", "Being In Love", various snippets, brief silence followed by operator comment and off. (LR-NH 454)
- 02/09/01, 0114-0123, 6955U -- Recorded male voice repeating "555 x 35", bells, repeat with variations in cadence and sequence. (AF 323)
- 02/11/01, 0418-7777, 6951A -- mx -- faint, unidentifiable, faded out in couple minutes. (LR-NH 252)
- 02/11/01, 1718-1726, 6955U -- "555 x 35" station on again. (AF 142)
- 02/12/01, \*0119-0128, 6950U -- "555 x 35" station on again. Suspicion that station may be counting using Latin numerals, i.e. "III X VI", not Arabic. (AF 142) (LR-NH 433)(Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 02/15/01, 0324-0330, 6950U, mx -- jazzy, pleasant. Data QRM made difficult copy. (AF 222)
- 02/15/01, 2358-0015, 6950L -- mx -- Beatles, "Green Onions", Dixieland, Tom Jones. Good signal. (Pse QSL LR-NH 455)
- 02/17/01, 0007-0016, 6955U -- mystery number station again. "III X VI" or "555 X 35". (AF 232)
- 02/17/01, 0040-0047, 6950U -- "vagina", "orgasm" similar repeated over and over. (AF 232)
- 02/18/01, 0000-7777, 6950U -- sporadic mx, possible Black Sabbath, other weird stuff. Weak signal. (AF 131)

### CONTRIBUTORS/PLEASE QSL

Dave Carlson, 2409 Neil Armstrong Drive, W. Lafayette, IN 47906 (DC-IN)  
 Jerry Coatsworth, R.R. #3 Merlin, Ontario, Canada N0P 1W0 (JC-ON)  
 Ross Comeau, 16 Linwood Street, Andover, MA 01810 (RC-MA)  
 Al Fansome (AF)  
 Scott Gentry, PO Box 123, Richton Park, IL 60471-0123 (SG-IL)  
 Chris Lobdell, Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180 (CL-MA)  
 Greg Majewski, 1176 Route 163, Oakdale, CT 06370 (GM-CT)  
 Frederick Moe, 36 West Main Street, Warner, NH 03278 (FM-NH)  
 Lee Reynolds, 53 Unity Springs Road, Lempster, NH 03605-3130 (LR-NH)  
 Zeke Russell, P.O. Box 1641, Mariposa, CA 95338 (ZR-CA)  
 John Sedlack, 2728 North 45th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68104-4527 (JS-NE)  
 George Zeller, 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, OH 44111 (GZ-OH)

### RAMBLINGS

We have a new contributor and A.C.E. member - Dave Carlson -- nice to have you aboard, Dave!

As ever, my thanks to all contributors to the column! Without you, wouldn't have the DIALOGS editor company car.....

Just a quick note to let you know about some practices I'm evolving when writing the column -

I usually round up (or down) on frequency.  
If I get multiple loggings for a given transmission I'll use the earliest and latest reported times.  
I condense reports slightly to save space and to deter the "List QSLers".  
All errata are to be blamed on JTA.

Of interest this month is the new "numbers" station (see "UNID"), a possible new station (Tuna Radio) and the re-emergence of the venerable East Coast Beer Drinker (assuming it wasn't an old tape being rerun!)

I'll be at the Kulpville SWL Beerfest from March 8<sup>th</sup> onwards. Say "Hi" if you see me and I'm still standing without needing assistance.

\*\*\*\*\*

## VERIED RESPONSE

Chris Lobdell

Box 146

Stoneham, MA 02180

EMAIL: clobdell@mediaone.net

NEXT COLUMN DEADLINE: March 19th.

Here's what the mailbag has brought our faithful contributors this month. Hope many of you in the East will be able to attend the Winterfest later this month in Kulpville, PA. It will be fun. I can't make it this year, but maybe next?

ALFA LIMA INTERNATIONAL. Full data QSL sheet along with a no data orange "Skull & Microphone" card in 3 weeks for a mailed report. [Smolinski-MD]

CRUNCH RADIO. Nice full size QSL sheet with info about transmitter set up in 5 days for posting on frn/ace website. [Sedlacek-NE]

KIPM. Two nice glossy 8" x 10" QSLs with writing on the back in 34 days. [Reynolds-NH]

KRMI/RADIO MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL. 6950, full data multi-colored map of The Great Lakes in 6 weeks for an emailed report. Mailed from Canada. [Lobdell-MA] Same in 15 days. [Reynolds-NH] Full data color post card & letter in 6 months. [Sedlacek-NE]

RADIO AZTECA. Card in 17 days. [Reynolds-NH]

RADIO NEPTUNE. 6950, full data card w/picture of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune in 64 days for report to the Blue Ridge Summit maildrop. Also received photo of scoreboard at Jacobs Field and AD for Andy Yoder's pirate CDs. [Zeller-OH] Nice letter from Joe Mack with playlist for show #5 in about 3 months. [Sedlacek-NE]

WRRM/S LIM SHADY RADIO. Verie [what type?] received in 2 days for posting of log on [www.frn.net](http://www.frn.net). [Reynolds-NH]

Thanks to: Lee Reynolds-NH, John Sedlacek-NE, Chris Smolinski-MD, and George Zeller-OH without whom there would be no column.



# CLANDESTINE PROFILE

by George Zeller

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1300-2145 UTC weekdays. E-mail input is welcome via my [georgez@nacs.net](mailto:georgez@nacs.net) address, with <http://www.nacs.net/~georgez> providing access to my web page.

## SOME ELECTION CLANDESTINES

Last month this column featured a long article commenting on the fact that there were no clandestine radio stations oriented around the disputed United States election. This remains true. But, no sooner than the ink began to dry on your copy of the January 2001 issue of *The ACE*, when all kinds of news began to break about clandestine activity related to the United States. None of this has election connections, but there might be more than a coincidence here.

## ANTI-HISBULLAH CLANDESTINE FROM ISRAEL

The lead item in *Clandestine Radio Watch* #61, by our own Nick Grace the proprietor of [Clandestineradio.com](http://Clandestineradio.com), notes that the Israeli government now has a new medium wave clandestine on the air. Using 756 kHz, The Experimental Radio from the Mediterranean Basin transmits attacks on the Syrian Hezbollah movement. It also hits other Palestinian militant groups. This station looks like an extremely difficult DX catch in North America, but it is worth a check on nights of excellent transatlantic propagation. The Arabic ID is cited by Nick via BBCMS as "al-idha'ah al-tajribiyah min hawd al-mutawassit." If you're on the east coast, let us know if this one ever pokes through.

## USA-FUNDED IRAQI CLANDESTINE GETS BIG BOOST FROM CLINTON

As we noted in this column a couple of months ago, Nick's editorial on [Clandestineradio.com](http://Clandestineradio.com) predicted that a presidential victory by George W. Bush would be associated with increased USA-funded clandestine radio activity. We will now get a test of this theory. In addition, in perhaps a surprise, Larry Magne of *Passport to World Band Radio* notes a mid-January article in the *Washington Post* on last-minute clandestine activity by former President Bill Clinton. According to the *Post*, Clinton approved a plan just before leaving office that will approve a \$12 million subsidy to the Iraqi National Congress. The funds, previously appropriated by Congress, will include clandestine broadcasts on a 24 hour a day basis. The *Post* said that the Clinton plan is supposed to use a transmitter located within Iraq. Given Nick Grace's previous analysis, this looks like one of those last-minute Clinton decisions that will not be overturned by George W. Bush, who is doing everything that he can to veto numerous other late Clinton initiatives.

## CUBAN SPY BROADCASTS DECODED BY FBI

An anonymous contributor sent in some astonishing news about Cuban numbers stations. I am sure that Tom Severt will be covering this as time goes by in Covert Corner, but the news is so astonishing, with some clandestine connections, that I have to mention it here.

According to the *Washington Post*, the FBI admitted in court that it had decoded shortwave radio messages from Cuba indicating that the Cuban government planned to shoot down airplanes from the "Brothers to the Rescue" Cuban exile group. Four members of this group were indeed killed when their plane was shot down in international waters by the Cubans as it patrolled for refugees fleeing Cuba. The *Miami Herald* also reported that the FBI had decoded advance messages saying that planes would be shot down, but the FBI claims that it did not have this

information in time to warn the exile group. The news is now becoming public at the trial of five men accused of being spies for Cuba in South Florida by infiltrating exile groups. The decoded messages, now declassified at the trial, warned the spies not to ride on the Brothers to the Rescue aircraft on the specific day that the planes were shot down.

This news is startling by itself, of course. But, it is of great interest to us because it shows that some communications between the Cuban government and its spies in the United States are definitely taking place via shortwave radio. Various press accounts indicate that the Cubans sometimes use numbers messages decoded by recipients on their PC's. At other times, including this airplane incident, another system using predetermined commands on pagers was used for some communications.

## ARRL DISCOVERS CLANDESTINES; CALLS THEM PIRATES

Thanks to the sharp eyes of ACE members Steve Foehner and The Dude, my attention was drawn to an interesting item on the ARRL web site. The January 11 article, titled, "Who's Jamming Whom? Getting the Story Straight on the 40-Meter Jammers," is worth checking out at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2001/01/11/3/?nc=1> on your internet dial.

The ARRL has apparently been receiving many complaints from frustrated amateur radio operators about the bubble and buzz jammers that often inhabit the low end of the 40 meter ham band. As veteran ACE clandestine DXers are aware, this area (and the area between the pirate band and 40 meters) is widely used by a number of clandestines beamed to the Middle East. The ARRL published a previous article on their web site that identified the culprits as Iranian jammers aimed at Iraq. The ARRL says that, "several members of the monitoring community had questioned the earlier ARRL report, which was based on information from typically reliable sources."

The new article retracts that earlier conclusion, and reports that the situation is actually the reverse. Citing information from Larry Van Horn of *Monitoring Times* magazine and a variety of other "SWL reports," the ARRL's Monitoring System Coordinator Brennan Price now says that the jammers originate in Iran, beamed to Iraq.

I'll quote one more sentence from the ARRL web site. "ARRL sources said this week that the object of the jamming is an Iraqi pirate station, which several SWLs identified as The Voice of the Mojahadin- broadcasting in Persian into Iran on various 40-meter frequencies as well as in the Aeronautical band." The article then goes on to describe the cat-and-mouse frequency jumping that often is observed between the station and its jammers as they slide up and down the band. The ARRL also concludes, that given the less than pristine friendly relations that the USA has with both Iran and Iraq, the ARRL does not see much hope of fixing this interference situation anytime soon.

It's interesting to see another instance of a common interest between hams and DXers, and some cooperation between the two groups in our hobby. This is a good sign. But, as you see, there remain some divisions between the groups. The nomenclature and jargon remains different between the two groups. Clearly, the Voice of the Mojahadin is hardly a pirate transmitter; it uses high powered SWBC equipment for its broadcasts. Thus, it's definitely a clandestine, and we have discussed it before in this column. But, the ARRL writers appear to make no distinction between pirates and clandestines, lumping both categories of unlicensed broadcasters in the same category that they call "pirates." This is somewhat ironic, since it is true that most of the "pirate" unlicensed broadcasting activity in the United States is done by licensed amateur radio operators, not by government clandestine transmitters. Not all of it is done by pirate operators in the pirate band; probably most of the pirate transmissions are ham QRM transmitted by hams within ham bands such as 80 meters.

## COLOMBIAN CLANDESTINE DEFINITELY ACTIVE

As reported by Dave Valko in *Hard Core DX*, via Numero Uno #1613, La Voz de la Resistencia is putting out a signal to the USA. Dave hears them for over a half hour at \*1124 UTC in the mornings. HCDX, citing a Rodriguez in Colombia itself, notes that the station is also active for an hour or more around 2130 UTC in the afternoon. 6233.7 kHz is the recently active frequency to try. I'm certainly going to look for it at the DXpedition that I discuss below. Is anybody else hearing this?

It will be very interesting to watch developments in Columbia under the new Bush administration. The political situation is unpredictable in the United States, as well as in Colombia. For instance, conservative commentator George Will of ABC said in one of his January *Newsweek* columns that the USA war on drugs in Colombia was doomed, given the large demand for drugs in the United States. It will be interesting to see how Bush handles American involvement in the Colombian civil war, which has been rapidly escalating in the later days of the Clinton administration. You can directly listen to some of the effects on this clandestine station.

## WINTER SWL FESTIVAL

By now I trust that you have made your reservations for the annual Winter SWL Festival, coming up shortly on dates officially set on March 9-10 in Kulpville, Pennsylvania. Most people actually show up on Thursday March 8, but the official Fest program begins on the morning of March 9. Once again this year, Festmeister John Figliosi announces that there will be a forum on pirates and unlicensed broadcasting as part of the Fest festivities. At press time for this column, the lineup is still being put together, but it looks pretty clear that we will have some serious pirate discussion this year, including input from *Monitoring Times* Outer Limits columnist George Zeller, *Hobby Broadcasting* editor Andrew Yoder, and the Granddaddy of all former pirate operators, Alan Weiner of WBCQ. You won't want to miss a gala extravaganza like this!

Sponsored once again by the North American Shortwave Association, the Fest remains the world's largest annual family reunion of DXers. Registration options range from regular at \$43 (including the meals) to as low as a one day partial registration with no meals at \$9. These fees apply only if you register in advance before March 2; they rise about 15% if you wait to the last minute and register on site, which you can do if you want. (The fees still include all the trips you want to the keg of Molsens in the Hospitality Room). If you need Fest information, check <http://www.trsc.com/winterfest.html> on the web. Then, you can write to them with your registration at PO Box 4153, Clifton Park, NY 12065. You still have to make the hotel registrations direct in Kulpville. The best bet is to call (215) 368-3800 for the reservations, which are at \$75 per night for either a single or a double, regardless of occupant. (There is no discount if your roommate is Jimmy the Weasel; it's a sorry situation). Don't call the Best Western toll-free line for these reservations; the special rate is available only direct from the hotel in Kulpville.

The Fest is at the same location where it has been for 13 years, the hotel at the first exit north of Philadelphia on the Pennsylvania Turnpike Northeast Extension. Don't be confused by the fact that it is not called the Kulpville Holiday Inn anymore, and by the fact that it is now called the Best Western Inn at Towamencin. It's the same place, just with a different sign on the front door. It promises to be another great weekend of fun for DX hobbyists of all kinds. Plus, this is the only place where you can log the Voice of Pancho Villa; mysteriously the signal never gets out very far for this great DX. I'll look forward to seeing you there.

## FRENCH CREEK DXPEDITION

Many ACE members who attended the Winter SWL Festival last year will remember the special award that they gave to your columnist. At last year's French Creek DXpedition, held after two feet of snow unexpectedly fell in eastern Pennsylvania, I pulled one of the greatest blunders of all time DXpedition history. As the DXpedition wound down and sunrise approached, I decided to get a head start in taking down my antenna in anticipation of several hours of driving back to Cleveland in potentially bad weather. Both Ed Mauger and I had yellow wire antennas of exactly

the same gauge, except that Ed's antenna was about three times as long as my 500 foot yellow antenna. By mistake, I took down Ed's antenna, somewhat compromising the quality of his reception of Nepal at the time. At the fest they awarded me Ed's antenna, wound up in a huge medicine ball sized jumble.

You would think that they would have Pennsylvania state troopers guarding the entrance to French Creek State Park, so as to make sure that I don't get anywhere near that site this year. But, foolishly, they have instead said that I am entitled to attend. They may even welcome me for some unknown reason. Thus, during the first week of February I will be at the DXpedition site. I hope to do some clandestine DXing as usual this year. But, my agenda is much different than any prior DXpedition that I have ever attended. My main goal is not DX this year. I instead plan to run both the Watkins Johnson HF-1000 and the new Ten Tec 340 high end DSP receivers A-B. This ought to be a very interesting test in a quiet spot with a good antenna, and it will be interesting to see which one of these two high powered receivers is most up to the challenge. I expect to have some results for next month's issue of *The ACE*.

## THANKS!

The input of ACE members and other DXers is vitally important to this column, and to all other ACE columns. We thank Martin Schoech (Germany), Bud Stacey (Alabama), Steve Foehner (New York), The Dude (New York), Larry Magne (Pennsylvania), an anonymous contributor, and George Zeller (Ohio) for providing material. Next month we all hope to hear from YOU by February 17 for the February *Clandestine Profile*.

## FRENCH CREEK DXPEDITION

Last month you probably noticed a big hole in the middle of the February issue of *The ACE*, where this column would ordinarily go. There was a paste-up error in the makeup of the bulletin, resulting in the vaporizing of the Clandestine Profile column. It was submitted on time, but it did not appear. Thus, we have decided to print last month's column in this month's issue, with apologies for the inconvenience to ACE members.

Meanwhile, I had the pleasure of attending the French Creek DXpedition on February 5-8. Also in attendance were several NASWA members, including Rich D'Angelo, Bob Montgomery, Fred Kohlbrenner, and Ed Mauger. They all eyed me very carefully at the end of the DXpedition, and I am therefore happy to report that this year I did not tear down Ed's antenna by mistake, like I did last year. My goal was somewhat unusual at this DXpedition. My main intention was to test the Watkins Johnson HF-1000 receiver A-B with the new Ten Tec 340 receiver, for the purpose of evaluating the performance of these high priced DSP receivers under quiet DXpedition conditions with a 500 foot antenna. But, my secondary purpose was to scan the bands to see what sort of clandestine radio activity is audible under these circumstances from eastern North America. This month I'll report on the stations. Next month I'll give some insight into what I found about the receivers, in case you have 4, 5 or 6 big ones that are burning a hole in your pocket, and in case you have decided to dish out that kind of cash for a new receiver. I'm doing this because many of us will be in attendance at the Winter SWL Festival in Kulpville, PA, and because this event and my subsequent vacation will interfere with normal ACE column deadlines.

At the French Creek DXpedition, I heard all of the following stations:

**Democratic Voice of Burma-** 11820 at 2330. This one is listed here, but I did not catch an ID. Radio Veritas Asia in the Philippines uses the frequency until they sign off at 2325\* UTC. The presumed clandestine relay then comes on at 2330. It's listed via a transmitter in Madagascar, which is somewhat better DX than they used to have with their Norway relay.

**Echo of Hope-** 6348 at 1205. I had thought that the Korean clandestines might be a thing of the past pretty soon, given political developments there. But, this one still is hanging in there. The signal was poor and a little fluttery, with utility station QRM causing problems, but the passband tuning circuit on the 340 proved its worth on this one. I could hear the signal pretty well once I adjusted the PBT properly.

**La Voz de Resistencia-** 6233.8 at 1130 and 2230. Reception was very disappointing on this one during the entire DXpedition. I checked both its morning and afternoon transmissions on each day of the DXpedition. There was a definite carrier there at all times, but it did not get up to



listenable audio very regularly. Neither the HIF-1000 nor the 340, even with a Sherwood SE-3 synchronous detector to help out, was able to pull this one up very well. You would think with all of that money from the cocaine proceeds, the Colombian rebels could invest in a better transmitter.

**National Radio of Sahara Arab Democratic Republic-** 7457 at 2115. This one came in quite clearly at a good level. It ought to be an easy catch for anybody, even with a cheap portable. Bob Montgomery asked me about it, saying, "isn't that Algeria?" The answer is, the Algerians think that it is in Algeria, but the rebels do not.

**New Star Broadcasting Corporation-** 8300 at 1320. This one is probably the most interesting anti-China clandestine on the air today. The Taiwan programmers for this one sometimes mix numbers broadcasts with the regular programming. It isn't known if these numbers are coded messages, or if they are just trying to fake out the Chinese. Unfortunately the signal was quite weak, and the DSP notch on both receivers was needed to eliminate a loud het from a utility station signal.

**Radio Baanadir-** 7072 at 2035. This was probably the most interesting logging of the whole DXpedition, although we have to classify it as tentative, since nobody actually copied an ID. I found it on February 8, and then just about everybody at the DXpedition gave it a close listen every day. On the 8th this one was being clobbered by two whoop-whoop jammers squeezed right below it on 7071 and right above it on 7072.3. This mess of hets, jamming, etc. caused a real mess. It seemed like I was able to hear them a little better on the HF-1000 than on the Ten Tec, but right about when I decided that my audio was acceptable after numerous adjustments of the notch, PBT, and so forth on the high priced rigs, the signal suddenly became quite listenable at 2057. The jammers signed off the air and left the signal in the clear for three minutes. The next day things were worse. The whoop-whoop jammer was still there just above the frequency, but below it there was a horrible loud wideband buzz jammer. This buzz jammer did not have a carrier that you could center it on in ECSS mode. But, it was pretty effective, even more effective than the two jammers on the previous day. If you'd like to see some entertaining jamming on the 40 meter ham band, this is a good spot to check.

**Radio Kurdistan-** 4130 kHz at 0330. This one had a decent carrier, but the level of the audio was pretty poor.

**Tamil Broadcasting Corporation-** 21590 at 1300. This one is hardly DX, given their use of a German transmitter for this quasi-clandestine program. It ought to be a pretty easy catch in the mornings for anybody.

**Unidentified-** 21590 at 1350. This one had a discussion of the CIA and George W. Bush in a language I could not identify, along with some mentions of Pakistan. I was looking for the listed Tamil clandestine, and perhaps this is it. There were some trumpets from time to time.

**Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan-** 6860 at 0340. Arabic music vocals dominated the programming on this one. It's not that far from the pirate band, so given the decent signal I heard, this one is a target if you want to tune down a few kHz from the North American pirate band.

**Voice of the People-** 6600 at 1250. Here's another Korean clandestine that has not disappeared yet. Their piano music was easily copied. I have to give an assist to Rich D'Angelo on this one, since he found it.

**Voice of the People of Kurdistan.** 6995 at 0345. This one mixed Middle Eastern vocals with propaganda by a male announcer. A clear ID at 0357 mentioned Kurdistan. This one had a good clear signal, pushing the S meter up between S3 and S5 on the Ten Tec. Since it's right above the pirate band and right below the 40 meter ham band, here is another target that shouldn't be too difficult even with a portable receiver.

**Voice of Tibet-** (non-log) I checked repeatedly for the 1200 UTC transmissions listed for this one on 15595, 15680, and 15705 kHz. I was looking in vain, since I never heard anything.

I hope that these logs may give some of you a target to shoot for. They are all recent logs, with proven signals into the eastern part of North America.

#### THANKS!

The input of ACE members and other DXers is vitally important to this column, and to all other ACE columns. Last month I forgot to thank Alan P. Masyga of Minnesota, who sent in material. Next month we all hope to hear from YOU by March 17 for the April Clandestine Profile.

## Micro'casting

Bud Stacey, PO Box 907, Satsuma, AL 36572

e-mail: [salstacey@aol.com](mailto:salstacey@aol.com)

The sole purpose of this column is to enlighten & educate ACE members about the many aspects of Part 15 and micro radio- this is YOUR column! Please send all stuff & what-have-you to the address or e-mail address above and YOU'LL get credit or blame, whichever you prefer!

THE "NO NEWS" NEWS SEGMENT: Well, nothing new to report, politically, technological or otherwise...BUT I do have an address for PCS Electronics I promised a couple of months ago! You can contact Marko Seruga regarding the fine PCS product line at: PCS Electronics, Marko Seruga, Ul. Simona Jenka 7, SI-1215 Medvode, Slovenia. Tell him you saw it here in The ACE!

From Rick Aiello comes info about a radio flick from long ago, re: last month's column on radio-themed movies. Rick sent me a copy of a couple of QSLs (radio verifications) from a friend in France of a 1956 film of intrigue and amateur radio, titled, "Si Tous Les Gars Du Monde". One of the copies is of an actual film poster- pretty neat! Rick also mentions he started much like I did with an old wooden table top AM radio (he actually heard Wolfman Jack on the Mexican flamethrower station!!!) but got a six-transistor Channel Master radio, complete with earplug and external antenna (circa 1965) and he still has it! Thanks, Rick!

Rick, I collect old radios of all types; in fact, I also have a six tranny pocket radio, but with an internal loopstick antenna. It was made in Japan, has "Model No. 1132" on the rear and has a royal crest on the lower left front corner with a "P" in the center. Any ideas, y'all, of who the manufacturer is?

And, for those of you who are looking for help getting into LPFM, here's two sources: MBC Consulting, 800-219-7461, [www.mbcradio.org/consulting](http://www.mbcradio.org/consulting); and Keith Hammond, e-mail: [hawkmf@peoplescom.net](mailto:hawkmf@peoplescom.net). Keith runs a consulting firm regarding radio and LPFM especially, but the info escapes me at the moment.

And for those of you who are gathering equipment for your LPFM station when your license arrives (!), check out the 3db gain single bay antennas for \$95 at [fmbroadcasters.com](http://fmbroadcasters.com)!

STATION PROFILE: "Captain Fred" from the other end of the U.S. contacted me with info about some of his background and good info on what to do to keep your station safe:

"I started my radio work at the local college radio station. It was summertime and they needed people to help them fill out the schedule. I got into it because I had the "radio bug"; that is, I always wanted to be on the radio. Even as a kid, I used to pretend I was on the air with my little G.E. reel to reel tape recorder. That was about thirty years ago. Once I heard about Free Radio Berkeley, I realized that was something I wanted to try and do, too. Now, my show is syndicated on thirty micro-stations and over the Internet.

"There are two things that will help you stay on the air. First of all, know your rights. Contact the National Lawyers Guild/Center for Democratic Communications, 558 Capp Street, San Francisco, CA 94110, ph. (415) 648-8450. They have an excellent pamphlet called, "What To Do When The FCC Knocks On Your Door". They can also refer you to an attorney in your area who can represent you in your efforts. Secondly, get the support of your community!

"One thing I think is important is keeping your signal clean. This is done by using a limiter on your audio and also having an output filter on your transmitter. Pick a frequency for your station that is at least 400 kHz away from the nearest authorized station. Make sure

your signal doesn't drift.

"The FCC has to have a search warrant before they enter your studio. They will try to bluff their way in, but the bottom line is, "no warrant-no entry". If you let them in without a search warrant, then you're just a fool and deserve to get shut down. (Check your Bill of Rights, Fourth Amendment, folks! Bud) For a crash course in political education, check out "Rising Up-Class Warfare in America From The Streets To The Airwaves" by Richard Edmondson. He's the co-founder of San Francisco Liberation Radio. To order a copy of the book, send \$20 to Librad Press, 750 La Playa Street #852, San Francisco, CA 94121."

Thank you Captain Fred! He also mentions that his first antenna was a copper pipe J-pole, but 5/8-wave antennas are available through Comet Electronics and transmitter kits from Free Radio Berkeley, both mentioned before in this column. He also mentioned various items, such as decks, CD players, etc, computer stuff and what-have-you for ease of operation, both over the air and via the Internet, much as we've mentioned here before.

And with that, I can safely say, there IS someone "out there"; when can I hear from YOU for more column goodies? Until next time...de Bud



## COVERT COMMS

By: Tom Severt  
307 Granby  
Frontenac, KS 66763-2440  
n2uhc@yahoo.com

Big news this month is the recent arrest of an FBI agent on suspicion of spying for Russia for the past 15 years. Robert Hanssen, who worked as a counter-terrorism expert for the FBI for 27 years, was arrested on Sunday the 17th of February. The FBI stated that Hanssen may have caused extensive damage to national security.

One of the secrets allegedly passed to the Russians were methods the US uses to conduct electronic surveillance. Hanssen may have also confirmed some information passed to the Russians by Aldrich Ames, who sold secrets to KGB agents while working for the CIA.

An internal intelligence audit done by the FBI revealed the presence of a mole within the agency. This is when Hanssen was first suspected of being that very mole. Agents secretly obtained Russian documents which led to him.

Hanssen was based at the FBI headquarters in Washington, DC and was arrested at his Washington home. One of his previous posts was to perform surveillance on Russian government officials while in the US. The sad part is that another of his previous jobs involved advising the State Department about security.

I'm sure they learned a very important lesson from him.

Recently, a new station has popped up on the air. A station reading numbers in, get this, Roman numerals. It's doubtful the station is an actual numbers station, but most likely a pirate spoof. It's only been logged on 6950 and 6955, the two currently most popular pirate frequencies. The transmissions start out with a callup of III X VI which is repeated for several minutes, then ten chimes which sound like they're coming from either a church or grandfather clock, then five figure groups of Roman numerals.

When this station was first heard, it was thought that it was repeating 555 X 35 and then groups consisting of variations of 5, X, and 3. But it's apparent that what sounded like 5, X, and 3 is actually I, X, and V. Especially after pirate DXers were clued in by someone in the FRN chat room.

Could this be long-lost communications between Spartacus and Rome, bouncing around space for thousands of years, before the signal found its way back to earth? I'm sure if the Romans had numbers stations, it would probably sound just like this station.

The Roman numerals numbers station joins the Mexican food numbers station "taco, burrito, nacho..." and the foul-language Attention 69 station as clever parodies of these odd stations that officially don't exist. And I'm sure the parodies don't officially exist, either.

But just in case the station does officially exist, I would really love to have a studio copy tape of it (hint hint, whoever you are!).



## the ASSOCIATION of CLANDESTINE radio ENTHUSIASTS

PO Box 1, Belfast, New York 14711-0001

The A\*C\*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A\*C\*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A\*C\*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

**President and Publisher.....**power and prestige can be yours!  
**interim Managing Editor.....**Ye Olde jta <jtart@realns.com>

### Our Editors...

Dialogs.....Lee Reynolds, 53 Unity Springs Rd, Lempster, NH 03605-3130  
Veried Response.....Chris Lobdell, PO Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180-0146  
Clandestine Profile.....George Zeller, 3492 W 123rd Street, Cleveland, OH 44111-3553

### Feature Editors...

Covert Comms.....Tom Severt, 307 Granby Street, Frontenac, KS 66763-2440  
Micro-casting.....Bud Stacey, PO Box 907, Satsuma, AL 36572-0907

### ANNUAL DUES (including a 1-year subscription to THE ACE)

U. S. & possessions	\$22.00	MUST BE PAID IN US FUNDS
Canada/Mexico	\$27.00	OR CHECK FROM US BANK
World Airmail	\$40.00	OR US/CANADIAN POSTAL ORDER

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Permission to reprint material contained in this publication is granted with the exception of work which holds a specific copyright, and provided written credit is given to The ACE on the same page on which the ACE material is reprinted. All material in this publication is the property of the author. The ACE publisher bears no responsibility for the content of this newsletter.